

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 7 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 1-3, 5, and 8 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An inkjet recording apparatus for performing recording by ejecting ink onto a recording medium using a plurality of heads, the apparatus comprising:

said heads, each ejecting a different color ink and each having a plurality of heating means to eject the same color ink;

a common support member on which said plurality of heads are arranged, said common support member conducting heat among said heads;

obtaining means for obtaining temperature of a printing head unit including said common support member and said plurality of heads;

a recording mode setting circuit for setting a head that is to be used for recording in a recording operation based on image data and a head that is not to be used for recording all the way through the recording operation based on the image data, from among said plurality of heads; and

control means for ~~heating not causing ejection, if the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is in a predetermined range, only the head that is set by said recording mode setting circuit to be not used for recording to adjust the temperature of the head to be used for recording utilizing heat conduction~~ controlling, when the obtained

temperature of the printing head unit is lower than a first temperature, heating, not causing ejection, of all of the heads,

controlling, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is higher than the first temperature and lower than a second temperature, heating, not causing ejection, of the heads set by said recording mode setting circuit to be not used for recording and stopping of heating of the heads set by said recording mode setting circuit to be used for recording, and

controlling, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is higher than the second temperature, stopping of heating of all of the heads.

2. (Currently Amended) An inkjet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is lower than the second temperature, said control means causes the heating means for the head that is not to be used for recording to generate heat such that the ink is not ejected from the head.

3. (Currently Amended) An inkjet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is lower than the second temperature and higher than the first temperature, said control means causes heating of the head that is not to be used for recording while the head to be used for recording performs recording.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) An inkjet recording apparatus for performing recording by ejecting ink onto a recording medium using a plurality of heads, the apparatus comprising:

said heads, each ejecting a different color ink and each having a plurality of heating means to eject the same color ink;

a common support member on which said plurality of heads are arranged, said common support member conducting heat among said heads;

obtaining means for obtaining temperature of a printing head unit including said common support member and said plurality of heads;

discrimination means for discriminating between a head that is to be used in a next recording operation based on image data and a head that is not to be used all the way through the next recording operation to be performed based on the image data; and

control means for ~~heating not causing ejection~~, if the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is in a predetermined range, only the head that is discriminated by said discrimination means to be not used before the head discriminated to be used for recording starts the recording operation, to adjust the temperature of the head to be used utilizing heat conduction controlling, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is lower than a first temperature, heating, not causing ejection, of all of the heads,

controlling, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is higher than the first temperature and lower than a second temperature, heating, not causing ejection, of the heads discriminated by said discrimination means to be not used for recording and stopping of heating of the heads discriminated by said discrimination means to be used for recording in the next recording operation, and
controlling, when the obtained temperature of the printing head unit is higher than the second temperature, stopping of heating of all of the heads.

6. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a heater for heating provided independently of the heating means is controlled by said control means.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means effects control of the heating before the head that is set by said recording mode setting circuit to be used for recording is started to be used for recording[.],

~~if the temperature obtained by said obtaining means is lower than a predetermined temperature, all of said heads are heated not to eject ink;~~

and if the temperature obtained is higher than the predetermined temperature, the head that is set to be used for recording is stopped being heated and only the head that is set to not be used for recording is continued to be heated.

9. (Previously Presented) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of heads has a temperature sensor and said obtaining means obtains an average of outputs from said temperature sensors as the temperature of said printing head unit.